

To: Ferrell, Mark[Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov]
Cc: Arguto, William[Arguto.William@epa.gov]
From: binetti, victoria
Sent: Wed 2/26/2014 4:52:00 PM
Subject: RE: WVAW summary

Bill, please review this, and correct or add anything, as needed:

During a call on 2/3/14 among chemists/scientists (EPA, state, WV American, private labs) to discuss analytical methods for PPH/diPPH, American Water offered to provide a summary of the basis for their expectation that the chemicals would not be a persistent problem in the distribution system, and requested that EPA review the summary. (I believe their general rationale was also discussed previously.)

Basically, initial efforts were to assure that consumer exposure would be minimized (Do Not Use), while getting rid of the contaminant material through system flushing—systematically and progressively flushing the material from the distribution system (to be followed by flushing of residence/building plumbing, according to directions provided). Their thinking was/is that, on the basis of the chemical properties of MCHM and PPH, they would not be persistent in the distribution system (i.e., they wouldn't adhere to pipes/plumbing). This last piece (the chemistry/pipe interaction) is the subject of the summary approach that WV American offered to provide to EPA for review. EPA notified American Water that we would review the summary, consistent with providing technical assistance (to both WV American as well as to the Bureau for Public Health), on February 10.

The draft summary was submitted by American Water to EPA on February 18th. We enlisted a team of researchers (from our Water Security Division and the National Homeland Security Research Center), who are very knowledgeable about distribution systems and the behavior of contaminants, to critically review the summary and provide us a report. We should have that draft report soon.--Vicky

From: Ferrell, Mark
Sent: Tuesday, February 25, 2014 7:16 PM
To: binetti, victoria
Subject: WVAW summary

Vicky, can you help me understand how the West Virginia American Water summary on residuals in piping came to be? Were they tasked by an outside agency to assemble this info? And at what point did EPA become involved - and how/why is our review of their summary being done? I'm still getting questions from HQ and from a member about it. Thanks - !

Mark

Mark Ferrell

EPA Region 3

Office of State and Congressional Relations

West Virginia Liaison

Charleston, W.Va.

(304) 542-0231

From: Ferrell, Mark
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2014 4:06 PM
To: Arguto, William
Subject: RE: update on samples

Thanks Bill - clarification; do we have WVAW's summary in-hand?

Mark Ferrell

EPA Region 3

Office of State and Congressional Relations

West Virginia Liaison

Charleston, W.Va.

(304) 542-0231

From: Arguto, William
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2014 2:13 PM
To: Ferrell, Mark
Subject: RE: update on samples

Mark – One quick answer re the residuals. We had planned to review American Water's summary of the residual effort. I will reach out to our chemists / research folks for an evaluation

of their position and I would expect that at that time we would augment the discussion with our position

From: Ferrell, Mark
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2014 1:46 PM
To: Laura Chambers
Cc: Levine, Carolyn
Subject: Re: update on samples

Laura, our Philly office was closed yesterday and DC is, well, you know. So were a little behind at the moment on some of our coordination efforts, particularly with other agencies similarly affected, but let me see what we can get for you that we have as of today.

Mark

From: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller) <Laura_Chambers@rockefeller.senate.gov>
Sent: Friday, February 14, 2014 1:24:51 PM
To: Ferrell, Mark; Levine, Carolyn
Cc: Snyder, Raquel; Miller, Linda
Subject: RE: update on samples

Hi all,

I wanted to circle back around on a few things as we plan to give the Senator another update this afternoon:

- Have you received the summary from American Water regarding residuals in piping? Has EPA done an independent work on this?
- Could you please provide a brief update on clean-up efforts?
- Has sampling for PPH below 2 PPM been completed? What levels is the chemical being tested at?
- Any more information on why formaldehyde could have been more common the toilet tanks or Mr. Simonton's testing methods?

Many thanks for your help on getting us answers. Any other additional updates you have outside of these questions would be welcome too.

Laura

From: Ferrell, Mark [<mailto:Ferrell.Mark@epa.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, February 11, 2014 1:53 PM
To: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller); Levine, Carolyn
Cc: Snyder, Raquel; Miller, Linda
Subject: Re: update on samples

Regarding the question on residuals in pipe. American Water is providing a summary of the exiting science addressing residuals in piping. We are expecting the summary by the end of the week. Once we have it, EPA will provide a review. I will keep you posted on it's progress.

From: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller) <Laura_Chambers@rockefeller.senate.gov>
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 4:56:39 PM
To: Levine, Carolyn
Cc: Snyder, Raquel; Miller, Linda; Ferrell, Mark
Subject: RE: update on samples

Thanks for the update on the response to the health study. Appreciate and info others can give on the additional questions relating to reactions to pipes, the formaldehyde found at Vandalia Grille and updates on remediation efforts.

Laura

From: Levine, Carolyn [<mailto:Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>]
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 4:47 PM
To: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller)
Cc: Snyder, Raquel; Miller, Linda; Ferrell, Mark

Subject: RE: update on samples

Hi Laura,

I am adding Linda Miller and Mark Ferrell in our Region 3 office who have been working with the technical folks to respond to your questions. They can facilitate responding to your additional questions.

Regarding the Senator's letter to CDC and EPA, we have prepared a joint response with CDC which should be coming from CDC in the next day or so.

Please let us know if you have additional questions.

Carolyn Levine

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations

U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859

levine.carolyn@epa.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller) [mailto:Laura_Chambers@rockefeller.senate.gov]

Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 3:17 PM

To: Levine, Carolyn

Cc: Snyder, Raquel

Subject: RE: update on samples

Hi Carolyn,

I hope you had a good weekend. I wanted to follow-up on my last email on Friday afternoon and also I had some more follow-up questions we are trying to stay on top of.

- o Is there any additional info on MCHM or PPh and how it behaves with different types of pipes. Our initial questions were: Do they cling to materials like glass or metal? Do they permeate plastic/PVC? (there have been some conflicting reports on how chemicals would react to metal, glass, plastic, PVC, clay etc)
- o Any updates on remediation? (especially in light of recent weather - freeze / thaw, higher river levels)
- o Any progress on a response from EPA and CDC on the Senator's request for a long-term study?

Thanks for your help in getting us answers.

All the best,

Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller)

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 6:02 PM

To: 'Levine, Carolyn'

Subject: RE: update on samples

Thanks for sharing. Did you mean 190 PPB?

Is formaldehyde very common in toilets or at least more common than in faucet water? If so, why? Is there a reason it would be more common in toilet water than faucet water- IE from cleaning products?

Thanks,

Laura

-----Original Message-----

From: Levine, Carolyn [<mailto:Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>]

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 5:28 PM

To: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller)

Cc: Miller, Linda; Ferrell, Mark

Subject: RE: update on samples

Hi Laura,

We have some additional information regarding Dr. Simonton. EPA contacted Dr. Simonton/Marshall University to ask questions concerning the reported formaldehyde results in some water samples. On February 5th, Dr. Simonton provided EPA with a lab report for five samples collected at one location - Vindalia Grille - on 1/13/14.

The regional lab's summary of results based on the lab report:

- Five samples (3 from water tanks from bathroom toilets) collected on 1/13/14.
- Positive formaldehyde results were 32 ppb and 33 ppb and were from the 3 toilet water samples.
- Only two of the samples with positive formaldehyde results had positive detects for MCHM (160 ppb and 1900 ppb). One sample with 32ppb of formaldehyde was non-detect for MCHM at a detection limit of 50 ppb.
- Method blanks were non-detect for formaldehyde and MCHM.

EPA will be following up with Dr. Simonton to obtain more specifics on the raw data and discuss details of methodology.

Carolyn Levine

Office of Congressional Affairs

U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859

levine.carolyn@epa.gov

From: Levine, Carolyn

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 11:16 AM

To: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller)

Subject: RE: update on samples

Hi Laura,

Our regional office did finally make contact with the scientist and received some data and information. I will find out more details and I will let you know.

Carolyn Levine

Office of Congressional Affairs

U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859

levine.carolyn@epa.gov

From: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller) [Laura_Chambers@rockefeller.senate.gov]

Sent: Friday, February 07, 2014 10:37 AM

To: Levine, Carolyn

Subject: RE: update on samples

Hi Carolyn,

Has anyone been able to get in touch with the Marshall scientist yet?

From: Levine, Carolyn [<mailto:Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 2:59 PM

To: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller)

Subject: RE: update on samples

Surface water sampling includes-

Drainage on site-there are trenches upgradient and downgradient of site, sampling is in the surface water runoff into trench.

Carolyn Levine

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859

levine.carolyn@epa.gov<<mailto:levine.carolyn@epa.gov>>

From: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller) [mailto:Laura_Chambers@rockefeller.senate.gov]

Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 2:45 PM

To: Levine, Carolyn

Subject: RE: update on samples

Are these samples coming directly from the tank or groundwater surrounding?

From: Levine, Carolyn [<mailto:Levine.Carolyn@epa.gov>]

Sent: Thursday, January 30, 2014 2:40 PM

To: Chambers, Laura (Rockefeller)

Cc: Miller, Linda

Subject: update on samples

Hi Laura,

Some additional info. from EPA R3-

The facility's remediation consultant, CEC, collected two surface water samples on January 29, 2014. EPA, WVDEP, and plaintiff representatives collected split samples. EPA's split samples were shipped to the Region 3 Lab for Trace VOC and MCHM/PPH analysis. CEC plans on re-developing monitor wells onsite to facilitate collection of groundwater samples, which should occur on Monday, February 3, 2014.

Carolyn Levine

Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations U.S. EPA

(202) 564-1859

levine.carolyn@epa.gov<mailto:levine.carolyn@epa.gov>

Cell: 215 287-7414